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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed interview with Earl Hopkins, a Colorado wheat farmer, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Referendum.)

A FARMER SPEAKS

Reading time: 4 minutes, 30 seconds

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ANNOUNCER: A farmer speaks on the wheat marketing quota referendum. One typical Western wheat grower who's going to cast his ballot in the national wheat marketing quota referendum on May second is Mr. Earl Hopkins. You operate a wheat farm in Colorado, don't you, Mr. Hopkins?

HOPKINS: Yes, I have four sections in Adams County. I've been raising wheat in Colorado since 1924. It's my main source of income.... and I tell you that income has been pretty slim some of those years. Take 1931 for instance. I had a pretty good crop that year, but I had to sell it for 27 cents a bushel.

ANNOUNCER: Yes, farm income was mighty slim in those days. But wheat growers are getting much better prices now, aren't they?

HOPKINS: Yes, we've come a long way since then. I can remember when the first wheat allotment committee was set up in my county back in 1933. It was the first time American farmers ever had a means of working together to solve their problems on a national basis. Our income is better today because we have a better way to handle our production and marketing problems. One thing we don't always stop to realize is that the wheat surplus is a great deal larger today than it was in 1931 when I sold my crop for 27 cents....and we still had some foreign markets then. The reason we aren't going broke raising wheat today is that we have a way to regulate our production and marketing through the Ever-Normal Granary. Acreage allotments divide the market among all growers, commodity loans support the price at fair levels, and marketing quotas keep the surplus from wrecking the market. That is something to think about when we vote on quotas this year.

ANNOUNCER: In times like these, Mr. Hopkins, don't you think it's a good thing to have a large surplus in reserve.....just in case?

HOPKINS: Absolutely! My point is that we do have this reserve....enough to last the country for more than two years if we didn't raise a bushel. For several years we've been storing wheat in the Ever-Normal Granary. We don't have to plow up our pasture land to raise wheat like we did last time. Right now agriculture has a big job to do in helping to win this war....but one thing we don't need is more wheat. Adding to our wheat surplus when the country needs more of things like vegetables, eggs, meat, and milk products would be about the same as increasing production of automobiles and refrigerators when we need tanks and airplanes.

ANNOUNCER: Then your idea is that we should think of our war production problems in terms of total agriculture.

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HOPKINS: Exactly. If we've learned anything in the past ten years, it's that all farmers have to work together. By that I don't just mean that we should cooperate only with our immediate neighbors. We have to do that, of course, but we've found out that farmers all over the country are in the same boat. When we lost our foreign markets for export crops like wheat and cotton back in the thirties, farmers felt the pinch everywhere. Dairy and poultry producers, livestock men, and everybody all down the line suffered. No sir, one branch of agriculture can't take it on the chin without hurting every other branch.

ANNOUNCER: And I suppose that is even more important now that we're in a war emergency.

HOPKINS: It certainly is! Anything that weakens any group of farmers.... anywhere....weakens agriculture as a whole. And a strong agriculture is necessary to win the war and establish the right kind of peace afterwards. Through allotments, loans, and marketing quotas we wheat farmers are keeping a reserve to meet all possible needs. At the same time, by keeping our production in line, we can use more of our land to produce the foods we need right now for ourselves and our allies. Marketing quotas are a part of the national program. They are not effective unless approved by two-thirds of the growers voting in the national referendum. This gives farmers a democratic method of deciding how to handle the surplus problem. Last year we used quotas to keep excess supplies off the market and this year, with the surplus larger than ever, we are going to vote on the question again.

For myself, I've had all the experience I want with plenty of wheat to sell but the price too low to pay the cost of production. That's why I think it's so important for every wheat grower to cast his ballot in the referendum on May second.

ANNOUNCER: You have just heard Mr. Earl Hopkins, a Colorado wheat farmer discuss the wheat marketing quota referendum to be held Saturday, May second. For further information consult your county Triple-A committee.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed statement by Fred S. Wallace, Chief of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Referendum.)

TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE PROBLEMS

Reading time: 60 seconds.

ANNOUNCER: What can wheat farmers do to contribute to the war effort? For the answer to this question listen to Fred S. Wallace, Chief of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency.

WALLACE: The United States has a one-year supply of wheat in reserve today. And farmers are planning to harvest enough new wheat this summer to last us for another year or more. Therefore we have a two-year supply of wheat in the offing. Wheat farmers can make their patriotic contribution to the war effort by keeping this wheat in hand.

Transportation facilities are feeling the strain of war production. Both raw materials and finished munitions are rolling to and from factories on wheels of steel. Railroads don't have time to transport excess wheat.

Terminal elevators are already bulging with wheat, and war priorities limit the possibility of new elevators. To prevent this huge wheat supply from retarding our war effort, wheat farmers must keep them in hand. Do your patriotic duty. Cast your ballot in the wheat marketing quota referendum on Saturday, May second. For further information, see your county Triple-A committee.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed statement by Fred S. Wallace, Chief of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Referendum.)

PRODUCTION RESOURCES AND WHEAT MARKETING QUOTAS

Reading time: 2 minutes

ANNOUNCER: Twenty-five years ago the slogan was "Wheat will win the war." That was the First World War. Since then a quarter of a century has passed, and we're fighting another World War. This war is different. Why??? Here's Fred S. Wallace, Chief of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, with the answer.

WALLACE: This is a war of speed and distance....A war being fought on all parts of the globe....A war being fought in the air at 400 miles an hour....A war of lightning attack. This war has no front line of battle. Yes....this war is different. And the food requirements are different from the last war. Now we need concentrated strength giving food for the men in uniform....and for the men behind the men in uniform. The call is for farmers to increase production of vegetables, pork, dairy and poultry products. Raise more peanuts, soybeans, and flaxseed.

BUT NOT WHEAT!!!!!! Sure....wheat is being used in this war. But we already have more than enough to supply the need. We cannot afford to waste human resources.... We can't afford to waste farm machinery, rubber tires, and petroleum products...and...we cannot afford to waste the soil raising an unlimited amount of wheat.

As a guard against these wastes, farmers have the national farm program which offers acreage allotments, commodity loans and marketing quotas. On May second, wheat farmers will decide whether or not to use marketing quotas on the 1942 crop.

Farmers who vote for quotas are willing to put the punch where it counts to smash the Axis. If you're an eligible wheat farmer, help decide the course to follow in marketing this year's wheat crop by voting in the wheat marketing quota referendum, Saturday, May second. For complete information on voting places in your community see your local Triple-A committeeman.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed interview with Fred S. Wallace, Chief of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Referendum.)

WHEAT IN 1942

Reading time: 4 minutes, 30 seconds

ANNOUNCER: Saturday, May second, has been set by the Secretary of Agriculture as the date for the wheat referendum. On that day wheat farmers the nation over will go to the polls to decide whether or not to use marketing quotas on the 1942 wheat crop. Today Fred S. Wallace, a Nebraska farmer and Chief of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, will discuss "Wheat in 1942." Mr. Wallace, just how much wheat do we have in the United States today?

WALLACE: A lot more than most people realize. We have more than a 600-million-bushel carry-over. And we have a crop planted that'll produce between 700 and 800 million bushels more this summer.

ANNOUNCER: And how much wheat will we use this year?

WALLACE: That's not a hard question to answer....even nowadays when the future is uncertain and any predictions are risky. At the present time there is nothing to indicate that we'll have need for much more wheat this year than we did last. And last year we only used about 700 million bushels including our exports. We could increase exports or wheat feeding several times before the picture would be materially changed.

ANNOUNCER: Now let's see. We only used 700 million bushels last year, and we have almost that much on hand today. Then there's a crop being grown now that will produce another 700 million bushels or more. Well....it would seem we don't need to worry about a shortage of wheat.

WALLACE: I'll say we don't.

ANNOUNCER: But wheat prices are considerably higher now than they've been for years. These huge supplies don't seem to affect the price very much.

WALLACE: Supplies naturally play an important part in prices. Prior to the wheat program huge supplies always meant low prices. But that hasn't been true in recent years. Let's take last year as an example. We had a record supply of wheat, but farmers decided to use marketing quotas to keep it in hand. Therefore a Government loan was available at an average rate of 98 cents a bushel. This held the wheat price in the United States way above the world market price. Actually....all farmers received an average of about 90 cents a bushel for their wheat.

ANNOUNCER: And what did farmers in other countries receive?

WALLACE: Considerably less than 90 cents a bushel. They received about 53 cents a bushel in Canada, 55 cents in Argentina, and 56 cents in Australia. Of course, those countries have wheat programs too. But they don't have acreage allotments, Government loans, and marketing quotas.

ANNOUNCER: Then you really feel our wheat loan program plays an important part in United States wheat prices?

WALLACE: I certainly do. Domestic wheat prices have consistently followed loan rates during the last few years. In 1938 the loan rate was 53 cents a bushel and the average price received by farmers was about 56 cents. In 1939 the loan rate was 64 cents a bushel, and the average price received by farmers was about 69 cents. In 1940 the loan rate was 65 and a half cents a bushel, and the average price received by farmers was 67 cents. Then last year the average loan rate was 98 cents a bushel, and the average price received by farmers was about 90 cents. Yes....the price of wheat the last four years has very definitely followed the Government loan rate.

ANNOUNCER: And what will the loan rate be on this year's crop?

WALLACE: That'll depend on the parity figures for wheat when the harvest season comes. Like last year the loan rate will be 85 percent of parity....if there is a loan.

ANNOUNCER: What do you mean, if there is a loan?

WALLACE: Well....the Secretary of Agriculture has proclaimed a continuation of marketing quotas on the 1942 wheat crop. But quotas will not be in effect unless at least two-thirds of those farmers voting in the referendum on May second approve. And if quotas are rejected there can be no loan.

ANNOUNCER: Of course, Mr. Wallace, we're in a war. Do you think there should be Government loans on wheat this year?

WALLACE: I certainly do. As far as I'm concerned our main objective today is to crush the Axis powers. And we all know we can't beat the Axis with bankrupt farmers.

ANNOUNCER: Then....you'd say to keep from going bankrupt, wheat farmers should retain control of these huge wheat supplies through marketing quotas.

WALLACE: The wheat farmers will decide that on May second. In making that decision they have a right to all the facts. This is one of them...without marketing quotas we cannot have a Government wheat loan. So....remember wheat marketing quotas are a part of the over-all production program for agriculture.

ANNOUNCER: Thank you, Mr. Wallace. You have just heard Mr. Fred S. Wallace, Chief of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency discuss "Wheat in 1942." And wheat farmers remember....cast your ballot in the wheat marketing quota referendum Saturday, May second.

Issued by Division of Information, ACAA
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed interview with W. G. Finn, Director, East Central Division, Agricultural Adjustment Agency, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Campaign.)

DEMOCRACY ON THE FARM FRONT
(Reading Time 4 minutes)

ANNOUNCER: We are at war. The effects are being felt during every moment of our lives. We are doing without many things which only a short time ago were regarded as indispensable. But there are some things that we won't give up -- now or ever. The chief one of these is our democratic way of life -- and that's really what we're fighting for. I want to introduce Mr. W. G. Finn, Director of the East Central Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, who will discuss "Democracy on the Farm Front." War or no war, democracy is a living and vital thing among America's farmers today. Is that right, Mr. Finn?

FINN: It sure is. While our Navy and air forces are patrolling the oceans of the world to strike at the enemies whenever and wherever they find them, democracy is in full operation on the farms of America. Our men in uniform are going to shove the Japanese and German soldiers around on the battle fronts until victory is won. But these aren't the only Germans and Japanese that'll be shoved around.

ANNOUNCER: What do you mean, Mr. Finn?

FINN: Simply this. Japanese and German farmers are being shoved around at home. They're being shoved around by the dictators who rule their countries with an iron hand.

ANNOUNCER: You mean there's quite a contrast between farming in America and farming in Germany?

FINN: There's no comparison between the two. The American way is the democratic way. Through use of the ballot the American farmers decide for themselves the course they'll follow. In Germany, Hitler commands and the farmer must goosestep. Orders are given and questions are not asked in Germany. The individual farmer doesn't have much to say about running his own farm. German farmers can sell their livestock only after the Nazi government has given them permission to do so. They tell the farmer when and where he must sell his livestock.... And they tell him exactly what he'll get for it. Not only that. They tell him how much wheat and rye he must sell. The German farmer is told how many acres of potatoes to plant....and exactly the type and variety of seed to be used.

ANNOUNCER: But what if the farmer isn't able to respond to all these commands?

FINN: If a German farmer doesn't respond, and the Nazi agent decides it's the farmer's fault, a Nazi manager is appointed to run the farm.... And the farmer has to pay the expense. In some sections they've attempted to increase egg production by fixing a minimum number of eggs that must be sold for every hen on the farm.

ANNOUNCER: Farmers in the United States do not operate like that, do they?

FINN: Certainly not! In the United States, Congress, through the Agricultural Adjustment Act, has provided farmers with a democratic method of handling farm problems. The act provides for acreage allotments, commodity loans, and marketing quotas. When we have a burdensome surplus of any of the basic farm commodities...such as our present surplus of wheat...the Secretary of Agriculture proclaims marketing quotas on that season's crop. Then farmers vote in a national referendum to decide whether or not they want to make use of marketing quotas. If two-thirds of those voting approve, quotas are in effect. In other words, the Government provides the machinery and the farmers decide whether or not they want to use it.

ANNOUNCER: And farmers will be making that decision on wheat marketing quotas on Saturday, May second. What about it -- can all wheat farmers vote in the referendum?

FINN: All who have planted as much as 15 acres of wheat, and have a normal production of 200 bushels or more.

ANNOUNCER: And if at least two-thirds of the farmers voting approve, quotas will be in effect.

FINN: Right. And I hope every eligible farmer will get out and vote in the referendum on May second. In fact...it's his patriotic duty to vote. I just pointed out how Hitler grabs German farmers by the collar and drags them along. Here in the United States farmers make their own decisions. By voting in the wheat marketing quota referendum farmers can show the Germans and the Japs that democracy is working while it's being defended.

ANNOUNCER: Thank you. Mr. W. G. Finn, Director of the East Central Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, has just discussed the wheat marketing quota referendum to be held Saturday, May second. Wheat farmers, for further information on the referendum see your county Triple-A committee.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed talk by H. N. Schooler, Director, North Central Division, Agricultural Adjustment Agency, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Campaign.)

DEMOCRACY ON THE FARM FRONT
Reading time: 4 minutes, 30 seconds

ANNOUNCER:

Around the entire world, a war is being fought to decide the future course of civilization.

The question at stake is----Shall men be slaves or free?

Part of this fight for freedom is being carried on here in America. To talk to you about it, I want to introduce Mr. Harry N. Schooler, a Mid-western farmer who is going to discuss "Democracy on the Farm Front."

Mr. Schooler is Director of the North Central Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. He tells us that the farm front is a very important front in this war.

SCHOOLER:

It certainly is. It's on the farm front where all the food is produced. And food is a lot more important in this war than many people realize. In Europe today the battle for food is becoming more important every day. Food may well be the weapon that decides the outcome of our present struggle. Men who operate airplanes, tanks, and battleships must be fed....and well fed. That is the law of war.

You are familiar with our food supplies here in the United States. Our men in uniform are well fed, and our supply of food is adequate to take care of civilian needs.

In Europe the picture is different. Their resources are being drained to support millions of men in Axis armies. The armies are being fed...But at the expense of the people in German-occupied European countries. The high command calls for food, and the officers deliver it, no matter what the result. If the high command calls for beef, and there's nothing available but dairy cows, they'll butcher the dairy cows. They say the army must be fed....and the army is being fed. But the folks at home aren't getting enough to eat. That's the situation in Europe today.

Compare that to the United States. Here farmers are planning for the biggest production in the history of American agriculture. We are going to make a lie out of Hitler's boast that democracies are inefficient.

We are going to increase our production according to our needs. We're going to increase our supply of meats, of milk, and eggs, and dairy products. We're going to step up our soybeans and peanuts and flaxseed for oil--making those increases on land that we do not need for corn and cotton and wheat.

In short, when it comes to production, we're going to put our punch where it counts most.

We know how a production problem like this is handled in Germany and Nazi-occupied Europe today. The farmer doesn't have any choice about the matter. The Nazis make the decisions and the farmers do what they're told. The Nazi agents tell the farmer how much he must plant -- and how much he must sell. More than that. They tell him when he must sell it -- and exactly how much he will get for it -- that and no more.

The farmer has no choice. If the Nazi agent decides that the farmers are inefficient, then he sends a Nazi farm manager to step up the farm. Then the farmer has to pay his salary -- and still take orders from him.

In a dictatorship, however, there is one thing that farmers don't have to do. They don't have to make decisions. Decisions have to be made, of course, but someone else makes them.

In a democracy, decisions have to be made, too. But those decisions have to be made by the people.

It takes strong men to make a democracy work -- it takes men who can say "No" to themselves -- men who are strong enough to put the welfare of their group and their nation above their own personal desires.

The farmers of the United States now have one of these decisions to make.

Our wheat supply in the United States is now at an all-time high. We have an extra year's supply on hand -- and a good crop coming up. Now it's only natural that many farmers want to raise all the wheat they can. But the truth of the matter is -- that would be just too much wheat -- more wheat than we could use -- store -- transport -- or market wisely at this time.

Now more than ever, we need to keep our production and marketing of wheat in hand. Now we need all our extra acres for war crops -- not for wheat.

But the decision is up to American wheat growers.

On Saturday, May second, American wheat farmers will decide how they will handle their wheat problem. They will decide by voting in the referendum on wheat marketing quotas.

I have confidence in the decision they will make -- for this is a democracy -- and American farmers are strong men.

ANNOUNCER:

Ladies and gentlemen, you've just heard Harry N. Schooler, Director of the North Central Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, discuss "Democracy on the Farm Front." For further information on the wheat marketing quota referendum, see your county Triple-A committee.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed interview with A. W. Manchester, Director, Northeast Division, Agricultural Adjustment Agency, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Campaign.)

DEMOCRACY ON THE FARM FRONT

Reading time: 4 minutes, 20 seconds

ANNOUNCER: This country is fighting its biggest war to save democracy. But there are two sides to the defense of democracy. One is to stop Hitler. The other is to make democracy really work right here at home.

Now there are some people who claim that the national wheat program with its allotments and quotas places restrictions on the farmer's freedom and so on democracy. I am going to put that question to A. W. Manchester, Northeast Regional Director of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. What would you say to that, Mr. Manchester?

MANCHESTER: That question deserves a pretty thorough answer. I agree that the best way to keep democracy is to make it work -- work so that it spells out justice and opportunity for every person. That is the real fight to preserve democracy -- the fight to insure justice and opportunity; and you and I know that you can't get justice and opportunity for all simply by letting everybody do whatever he wants to.

ANNOUNCER: Nobody will argue about that. We have laws and policemen under democracy, and we've got to have them. But what has that to do with wheat?

MANCHESTER: I thought you were suggesting that the wheat program prevented some people from doing just what they wanted to and so wasn't democratic.

ANNOUNCER: But I was talking about farmers selling their wheat wherever and whenever they wanted to. How does that hurt democracy? I understand that in a democracy you have to put the law onto criminals, but the farmer selling his wheat doesn't belong with these fellows.

MANCHESTER: Of course not. But a farmer selling his wheat, however he feels like selling it, may do a whole lot of damage to the rest of the wheat growers. In fact, he may spoil their chance to make a living -- if there are enough others like him.

You know, this regulation of sales that we call wheat quotas comes only when over two-thirds of the wheat growers vote for them. And that's in line with my definition of democracy -- the great majority able to protect their incomes from destruction by the few who won't cooperate.

ANNOUNCER: But do most wheat growers have a vital interest in how a few farmers sell their wheat?

MANCHESTER: They certainly do. Unless farmers cooperate to market in an orderly way, under present conditions prices would go to levels that would spell ruin for wheat growers.

ANNOUNCER: You said "cooperate." I thought this was a Government program.

MANCHESTER: Well, unlike the programs of the Axis Governments, all our programs really rest on the cooperation of the people concerned. The wheat program is essentially cooperation. The reason why cooperation so often breaks down is because it has to involve restraints on the part of the cooperators. If a minority won't exercise the necessary restraint, the order and the system aimed for break down. The quota is a means of assuring the necessary cooperation. And it puts that cooperation on the basis of each farmer's carrying his fair share of the load -- accepting his part of the necessary restraint. Cooperation can survive only when based on justice -- justice in sharing the burden as well as the return.

ANNOUNCER: I'm sure that's right. I understand that marketing quotas for wheat are being considered again for this year's crop.

MANCHESTER: The Secretary of Agriculture has already declared that they are necessary because of the large wheat supply, and has given the farmers an opportunity to vote on whether they want them. The referendum will be held on Saturday, May second. If two-thirds of the farmers approve, the quotas will remain in effect.

ANNOUNCER: Can all farmers vote?

MANCHESTER: All wheat farmers can vote who have planted at least 15 acres of wheat, and have an average yield of 200 bushels or more, and I hope that every eligible farmer will get out and vote on May second. By voting in the referendum, he'll have a chance to show Hitler that here in America, farmers exercise real democracy by cooperating to keep their business on a sound basis.

ANNOUNCER: Thank you, Mr. Manchester. You have just heard Mr. A. W. Manchester, Director of the Northeast Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, discuss "Democracy on the Farm Front." Wheat farmers....for further information on the wheat marketing quota referendum to be held May second, see your county Triple-A committeeman.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed interview with I. W. Duggan, Director, Southern Division, Agricultural Adjustment Agency, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Campaign.)

DEMOCRACY ON THE FARM FRONT

Reading time: 4 minutes

- ANNOUNCER: Every day that goes by brings the war closer home to every American. All of us are beginning to feel the pinch. Hitler is saying that we can't take it----that our democracy has drained the iron out of our blood----that we are a nation of push-overs. I want you to hear what I. W. Duggan has to say about this. He speaks for the great mass of Southern farmers. Let me present the Director of the Southern Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. What about it, Mr. Duggan?
- DUGGAN: I certainly agree that we are up against the toughest job we ever faced. But take my word for it: The American farmer, acting on his own free will and accord, can get just as tough with himself as any of Hitler's stormtroopers.
- ANNOUNCER: You mean, Mr. Duggan, that American farmers don't have to be shoved around like German and Japanese farmers?
- DUGGAN: That's exactly what I mean. Every American farmer knows just what is expected of him to help win this war, and he's going to come through. We've got to have lots more food--more dairy and poultry products, more meat and vegetables, more oil-bearing crops. We already have enough wheat, cotton, and tobacco for the present. That's the picture in a nutshell. The farmers know it, and they are hard at work to produce for the war demand.
- ANNOUNCER: That's no easy assignment the farmers have!
- DUGGAN: Of course not. It isn't easy for the automobile manufacturers to shift over to tanks and guns, but they're doing it. Radio and refrigerator people aren't finding it easy to shift over to war materials, but they're doing it. Farmers are accustomed to living and working the hard way.
- ANNOUNCER: In other words, the main thing is to get the war job done----in the factory and on the farm?
- DUGGAN: You're right. Hitler and the Japanese war-lords do it by making slaves out of their farmers and factory workers. We are going to do it by remaining free men. But remember one thing----freedom calls for discipline---a discipline we impose on ourselves. And it's going to be just too bad if we don't put the pressure on ourselves. For in one way or another, we've got to do the things necessary to win this war of survival.

ANNOUNCER: So far, Mr. Duggan, do you think our democratic processes are standing up under the test of war?

DUGGAN: I know of no better example than the way we are handling the wheat problem.

ANNOUNCER: You mean the wheat marketing quota program?

DUGGAN: That's right. Whenever we have a burdensome surplus of wheat, as we certainly have today, the Secretary of Agriculture proclaims marketing quotas on that season's crop. Then farmers vote in a national referendum to decide whether or not they want to use marketing quotas. The Government provides the machinery and the farmers decide whether or not they want to use it.

ANNOUNCER: And farmers will be making that decision on wheat marketing quotas on Saturday, May second. Can all wheat farmers vote in the referendum?

DUGGAN: All who have planted at least 15 acres of wheat, and have a production of 200 bushels or more.

ANNOUNCER: And if at least two-thirds of the farmers voting approve, then quotas will be in effect?

DUGGAN: Right and I hope every eligible farmer will get out and vote in the referendum on May second. In fact....I'd say it was his patriotic duty. I just told how Hitler grabs German farmers by the shirt collar and drags them along. Here in the United States, farmers go along of their own free will. By voting in the wheat marketing quota referendum, the American farmer can show the Germans and the Japs that democracy is working while it's being defended. That democracy can work in war as well as in peace.

ANNOUNCER: Thank you, Mr. Duggan, for those comments.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have just heard I. W. Duggan, Director of the Southern Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. Wheat farmers...for further information on the wheat marketing quota referendum on May second, see your county Triple-A committee.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed interview with N. E. Dodd, Director, Western Division, Agricultural Adjustment Agency, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Campaign.)

DEMOCRACY ON THE FARM FRONT
Reading time: 4 min., 15 sec.

- ANNOUNCER: We are at war. The effects are being felt every moment. We are doing without many things which only a short time ago we regarded as indispensable. But there are some things that we won't give up -- now or ever. The chief of these is democracy. It's the thing we're fighting for. I want to introduce Mr. N. E. Dodd, a Western wheat farmer, who is going to tell about "Democracy on the Farm Front." Mr. Dodd is Director of the Western Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. He tells us, war or no war, democracy is a living and vital thing among America's farmers today.
- DODD: That's right! While our naval and air forces are patrolling the oceans to strike at enemy forces, democracy is backing them up on the farms of America. The combination is a strong one. The Axis people will get a lot of shoving around during the months -- and maybe even years -- to come.
- ANNOUNCER: Giving them some of their own medicine!
- DODD: Some of their own medicine, as far as the German and Japanese soldiers are concerned, at least. I don't know if the home folks of those countries deserve to be shoved around -- the farmers, for example -- but they've been getting it for a long time -- from their own governments. When you live in a dictator country, you can expect to catch it from every side.
- ANNOUNCER: We often hear about the farmers of Germany being forced to goosestep to the Nazi Government's tune. How true is this, Mr. Dodd?
- DODD: Well, the more I hear and read about farming in Germany, the happier I am to be a farmer in America. For nine years German Agriculture has been strictly bossed from above. German farmers are told when and where they must sell their livestock. They're told how many acres of wheat or other crops they must plant and how much of the crop they must sell. They're told how many acres of potatoes to plant....and exactly the type and variety of seed to use. In some sections, farmers are even told how many eggs they must make their hens lay.
- ANNOUNCER: Well, but a farmer may not be able to produce as much as they tell him to.

DODD: Then the Nazi agents decide he's "inefficient" -- and they send in a Nazi farm manager to boss things for him. The farmer has to pay his salary and at the same time obey his orders.

ANNOUNCER: I should think that'd be pretty hard to take.

DODD: I'd say very hard to take. It's in absolute contrast to the way we do things here in the United States. We believe here that a man's home is his castle -- and his farm is his own farm. Uncle Sam doesn't have any concentration camps for farmers.

ANNOUNCER: What would you say is the best indication of farm democracy in the United States?

DODD: Our national farm program. It was set up by Congress, the representatives of the people -- instead of by a handful of uniformed Nazi officials. Its job is to keep agriculture in good shape so that farmers can produce plenty of everything consumers need at fair prices. The way our wheat problem is handled is a fine example of democracy in action. We've had more wheat than we knew what to do with during recent years. Exports had fallen off and prices had slumped. Farmers were going broke and couldn't buy goods from cities. There were bad times everywhere. When the Agricultural Adjustment Act was passed, things began to pick up on the farms. Through acreage allotments, farmers divided up wheat production more fairly among themselves. Then a loan program was set up, keeping wheat prices at a fair level. Finally, a year ago, farmers voted to have wheat marketing quotas....thereby dividing the marketing responsibility more equitably. Of course, all these things which put the wheat business back on its feet could have been done through government decree -- but that's not the American way to do it.

ANNOUNCER: I have heard that marketing quotas for wheat are being considered again for this year's crop.

DODD: They have already been declared by the Secretary of Agriculture because of the large wheat supply. We feel they will be more necessary than ever this year. But it's up to the farmers whether they want them. The referendum will be held on Saturday, May second. If two-thirds of them approve, the quotas will remain in.

ANNOUNCER: Can all farmers vote?

DODD: All farmers who have planted 15 acres of wheat, or more -- or have an average yield of 200 bushels or more -- can vote. And I hope every eligible farmer will get out and vote on May second. In fact....I'd say it's his patriotic duty. By voting in the referendum, we'll have a chance to show Hitler and Hirohito that here in America farmers are smart enough to run their own affairs....and that democracy does work!

ANNOUNCER: Thank you, Mr. Dodd, Director of the Western Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. Wheat farmers....for further information on the wheat marketing quota referendum May second, see your county Triple-A committee.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Agency

(A transcribed talk by Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture, for use in connection with the 1942 Wheat Marketing Quota Referendum.)

Reading time: 12 minutes, 15 seconds

WHEAT AND THE WAR

ANNOUNCER:

With the United States mobilizing all its resources for total war, 1942 will be a record production year for agriculture. The United States Department of Agriculture has asked farmers to increase production on all farm commodities except wheat. To discuss Wheat and the War, I present the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Claude R. Wickard.

WICKARD:

More than a year ago farmers of America set out to mobilize their production resources for defense. We were well under way when on December seventh, the attack on Pearl Harbor changed our plan to a mobilization for war.

Events of the last four months have made us realize more than ever the need for this complete mobilization.

Today farmers are producing more of nearly every farm commodity. With the help of Government, they have laid plans for even greater increases in some lines.

At the same time, they are faced with the problem of handling one crop for which we already have great supplies. That crop is wheat.

To be completely mobilized, we must handle wheat without waste and without slowing down our war effort anywhere. There is danger in the wheat situation. The supply is so large it threatens to overload our transportation system and crowd our storage facilities. Our terminal storage space is already bulging with wheat.

Fortunately, wheat farmers have a method to help meet this problem. That method is the marketing quota which was provided for in the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. Marketing quotas were designed primarily for peacetime, but now, when we are at war, they can serve the war program.

The Agricultural Adjustment Act provides that when the Nation has a burdensome surplus of any of the basic commodities the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to proclaim marketing quotas on that crop, and, when approved by at least two-thirds of the farmers voting in a national referendum, marketing quotas will be in effect.

With our large supply of wheat last year, marketing quotas were proclaimed, and 81 percent of the wheat farmers voting approved them in a national referendum. Last summer we could see that the supplies would continue to be great this year, so I proclaimed marketing quotas to stay in effect on the 1942 wheat crop. Wheat farmers will vote in a national referendum on May second, 1942, to decide whether or not they want to continue using wheat marketing quotas.

The world food situation is such that United States wheat farmers must consider the need for control of supplies of their crop. England, Russia, and China need food....Concentrated protein foods....vegetables, pork, dairy and poultry products. Foods that can be shipped in a limited amount of space. Food that will give the people of those countries the physical strength needed to fight and produce, and fight some more.

Our own armed forces, wherever they are, need these same strength-giving foods. And here at home men and women in our factories need food that will build their bodies and muscles for the hard physical labor of manufacturing thousands of airplanes, tanks, bombs, machine guns, and other weapons of war; food that will keep the nerves steady and heads clear.

In addition to these strength-giving foods farmers must also raise more oil-producing crops. The Japanese have virtually cut off our normal imports of fats and oils from the Far East. We must replace those supplies by growing more peanuts, soybeans, and flaxseed in the United States.

The situation in this war is vastly different from that of the last war. During the last war, wheat was the food needed. But when the war was over, many countries increased wheat production until today in the four main wheat exporting countries....Canada, Argentina, Australia, and the United States....stocks of wheat are larger than they've ever been at this time of year. Taking all four countries together, the supply of wheat on hand is almost enough to supply the normal export market for three years.

Yes....wheat is one crop we already have plenty of. In the United States alone we have enough wheat on hand to supply all conceivable needs well into 1943 without producing another bushel. There will be over 600 million bushels of wheat stored in the United States when farmers begin to harvest this year's crop. That's 250 million bushels more than we carried over last year. And according to the present outlook, this year's crop will be 150 million bushels more than domestic consumption. Our supplies when the 1942 crop is harvested may total over one billion, four hundred million bushels. So you can plainly see our wheat supplies are getting larger and larger.

Soon after Hitler invaded Poland in 1939 our wheat exports were reduced by two-thirds, and they've remained near that lower level ever since. Last year we shipped about 30 million bushels of wheat, and world conditions today indicate there's little hope of exporting any more this year.

Shipping space is hard to get....The enemy U-boat activity is taking its toll of our shipping facilities. The U-boats are not stopping us by any means. But they do force us to conserve shipping and make sure to send implements of war and concentrated food first. There just isn't much shipping space for wheat.

Even if the shipping were available there is little likelihood of greatly increased wheat shipments. Many of the countries which normally import wheat are under the iron heel of Hitler.

Even if those countries could import our wheat, our reserves are big enough to fill all probable demands until another crop can be produced.

These huge stocks of wheat are a decided asset. Instead of producing unlimited amounts of wheat, farmers can concentrate their labor and machinery on producing other crops vital to the war.

In view of the present large stocks of wheat on hand, crops that we need more of now should have....and are getting....priorities on acreage. The 1942 wheat allotment for the United States was 12 percent under the 1941 allotment. A great majority of wheat farmers have planted within their allotment so that the national acreage is within the 55-million-acre national allotment. This will produce more than enough to cover our needs. Many wheat farmers have already converted part of their wheat acreage into war crops. Some are planting flaxseed....Some are going to plant soybeansand so on. But the fact still remains we have a huge supply of wheat on hand, and this year's crop will add to it. Actually these huge supplies could retard the effectiveness of the "Food for Freedom" program unless farmers keep the surplus in hand.

Our transportation system is now carrying an extra heavy load of war materials being produced by war industry. Any additional transportation load that doesn't contribute to our war effort should definitely be eliminated. There is a growing need for transportation of war materials. Raw materials must be transported to the factories, and finished implements of war must be moved to our coasts. The marketing quotas, by encouraging farmers to store excess wheat on their farms, provide one means of relieving the burden on our transportation system. Even with quotas, there may be difficulties in transportation, but the quotas will help.

Then, too, our storage facilities are already crowded. Space to store the 1942 wheat crop will be even more limited than it was last year.

At the best our storage will have to be stretched to the limit to absorb this year's crop of wheat. Limited building supplies will prevent the building of much additional terminal storage, although there is a possibility that farm storage can be expanded some. Storage last year was taxed to capacity in handling a large wheat crop and a carry-over of about 400 million bushels. The problem will be much more difficult this year with the largest carry-over in our history and indications of a 700- or 800-million-bushel crop. But if farmers use marketing quotas the problem will be less difficult.

Marketing quotas are an essential part in maintaining our economic wheat structure. The price of wheat the last four years has very definitely followed the Government loan rate. In 1938 the loan rate was 53 cents a bushel and the average price received by farmers was 56 cents a bushel. Last year the average loan rate was 98 cents a bushel and the average price received by farmers was more than 90 cents a bushel.

Compare that with Canada where they also have a government wheat program, but they don't have acreage allotments, government loans, and marketing quotas. Canadian farmers received an average of about 53 cents a bushel for last year's wheat crop.

The law provides that unless quotas are approved in the referendum May second, there can be no Government loans on wheat this year. There is no question in mind that without quotas and loans wheat prices would fall to one-half of what they are now.

Let me explain briefly how the quotas operate.

With marketing quotas in effect, any farmer can sell all the wheat produced on his allotted wheat acreage, but must withhold from the market wheat produced on acres in excess of his allotment; or, if he sells it, he must pay a penalty.

The purpose of wheat marketing quotas is to give each farmer his fair share of the limited market. And this year the quotas can help our transportation system from being overloaded with surplus wheat. Farmers who raised more than their share of wheat will have to solve their own storage problem.

Wheat marketing quotas are a part of the over-all war program for agriculture.

Our huge supply of wheat can be an asset, but only if farmers keep it in hand. I want to say this to wheat farmers: The Congress of the United States has provided you with a method of keeping the supply under proper control. Congress also has provided a way for you to make the decision on using that method. It's up to you whether you want to use wheat marketing quotas on this year's wheat crop. It's your decision to make....And I hope every eligible wheat farmer will help make the decision by voting in the referendum Saturday, May second.

ANNOUNCER:

Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Ladies and gentlemen, in this talk on Wheat and the War, you have heard the Secretary of Agriculture, Claude R. Wickard.

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